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INFO RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT IMMEDIATE 7373
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK IMMEDIATE 8350
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE IMMEDIATE 2421
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE 0428
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 1572
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT IMMEDIATE 0017
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0605
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0689

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASTANA 000184

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, EUR/RUS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/30/2014
TAGS: PREL PGOV MARR RS KG KZ

SUBJECT: KAZAKAHSTAN WILL ATTEMPT TO ADVOCATE FOR MANAS

COALITION AIRBASE

REF: SECSTATE 08300

Classified By: AMBASSADOR RICAHRD E. HOAGLAND: 1.2 (B), (D)

- 11. (C) As instructed reftel, Embassy Astana attempted to communicate talking points to the highest possible level. Presidential Foreign Policy Adviser Khairat Sarybay is in Davos, Switzerland, at the World Economic Forum with President Nursultan Nazarbayev. Foreign Minister Marat Tazhin is in Almaty. The newly appointed First Deputy Foreign Minister just returned from his tour as Ambassador to Russia and, in any case, is generally considered to be pro-Russia. The newly appointed Deputy Foreign Minister for the Americas is not yet in place. We worked with Foreign Ministry Americas Director Talgat Kaliyev, and initially passed him the talking points as a non-paper in English and Russian, emphasizing the urgent need for action. During this first meeting of the day, Kaliyev noted Kyrgyzstan's President Bakiyev is very strapped for cash and is in the process of trying to consolidate his power domestically.
- 12. (C) In a later conversation with the Ambassador, Kaliyev said he had already passed the talking points to Foreign Minister Tazhin, who took them with utmost seriousness and promised to do what he could at the Commonwealth Strategic Treaty Organization ministerial in Moscow on February 2. According to Kaliyev, Tazhin recommended against a Nazarbayev call to Bakiyev because "Bakiyev does not like to receive, and usually does not listen to, advice from Nazarbayev." However, Kaliyev suggested Foreign Minister Tazhin would welcome a call from Secretary of State Clinton to emphasize the urgency of the issue and to discuss options.
- 13. (C) For one other option, Kaliyev noted that State Secretary Kanat Saudabayev, a long-standing confidant of Nazarbayev, arrives in Washington, DC, the evening of February 1 to begin a several-day series of meetings. Kaliyev suggested that a high-level intervention with Saudabayev "would not be harmful."
- 14. (C) COMMENT: We recognize that the suggestions of a Clinton call to Tazhin and a high-level meeting for Saudabayev in Washington could be construed as a bit self-serving. However, we have urgent national-security business to conduct, and probably no option should be taken off the table. END COMMENT.